

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10 /091 W

----- 113129

R 191136Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4416

UNCLAS VIENNA 10494

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SREF, AU, IS

SUBJ: KREISKY PRESS INTERVIEW ON TRANSIT OF SOVIET JEWISH
EMIGRES THROUGH AUSTRIA

REF: VIENNA 10278

1. CHANCELLOR KREISKY, IN INTERVIEW IN MAJOR VIENNA DAILY
"(URIER" DEC 19, WAS ASKED INTER ALIA ABOUT HIS VIEWS CONCERNING
TRANSIT OF SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRES THROUGH AUSTRIA. TEXT OF
PERTINENT PASSAGES, WHICH APPEARED UNDER HEADING "60,000 JEWS
VIA VIENNA?", FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE

A. KURIER: SOVIET-AMERICAN AGREEMENT CONCERNING DEPARTURE OF
60,000 JEWS HAS NOW BEEN COMPLETED AND THEREFORE YOUR RESER-
VATIONS AGAINST EXPANSION OF NUMBERS TRANSITING AUSTRIA HAVE
BECOME OF IMMEDIATE CONCERN. ARE THERE ALREADY OTHER COUNTRIES
WHICH ARE WILLING TO TAKE OVER PART OF THIS TRANSIT TRAFFIC?

KREISKY: NO, BUT I WAS ASSURED THAT US SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY
KISSINGER WILL INITIATE TALKS ON SUBJECT.

B. KURIER: ISRAELI AMBASSADOR IN VIENNA DESCRIBES TRANSIT ISSUE
AS PURELY ORGANIZATIONAL PROBLEM. WITH GOODWILL NUMBER OF
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TRANSITING SOVIET EMIGRES COULD BE DOUBLED.

KREISKY: NO, THAT IS NOT CORRECT. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR MUST LEAVE TO US MATTER OF EVALUATING SITUATION. WE ARE ALREADY PUSHING MOST RAPID PROCESSING OF TRANSITING PERSONS. IT IS NOT ONLY MATTER FOR ISRAELI GOVERNMENT BUT ALSO FOR PERSONS CONCERNED TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WISH TO GO.

C. KURIER: ONE HEARS THAT TRANSIT ARRANGEMENTS--CAMP IN SEMMER-ING, AND PROCESSING AND TRAVEL EXPENSES--INVOLVE NO COSTS FOR AUSTRIA. WHY THEREFORE ARE WE AGAINST AN EXPANSION OF THE NUMBERS TRANSITING.

KREISKY: WE DO NOT WISH TO BE THE SOLE COUNTRY OF TRANSIT, INTER ALIA BECAUSE OF SECURITY MEASURES WHICH ARE TRULY HEAVY BURDEN FOR US. END QUOTE. HUMES

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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